



Commissioner for Patents
May 30, 2003
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AMENDMENT

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

I. In the Abstract:

On line 1 of the Abstract section, please replace the word "comprising" with the word "having." A clean copy of the Abstract section is submitted below, and a marked-up version of the Abstract section is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

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A license plate lamp utilizing an integrally molded component having a base portion, a hollow lens portion, and a light source holder. The light source holder of the molded component is adapted to hold an electrical connector and a light source within the hollow lens portion. The electrical connector provides electrical connection between the light source and the electrical system of the vehicle. The molded component is molded with means to mount the disclosed license lamp to the exterior surface of a vehicle in a manner which allows access to the interior of the disclosed license lamp from inside the trunk of the vehicle.

II. In the Claims:

A. Please Amend Claim 1.

Please amend Claim 1 as set forth below. A marked-up version of Claim 1 showing the amendments is enclosed in Exhibit B.

1. (Amended) A vehicular lamp assembly for illuminating a license plate mounted on a vehicle with a light source electrically connected to an electrical system of the vehicle, wherein the vehicle has an exterior surface with an opening formed there through adjacent a license plate, said assembly comprising:

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a molded component comprising (i) a base portion having an opening formed there through, (ii) a lens portion rigidly, integrally molded completely over said opening in said base portion and extending outwardly from said base portion to

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form a hollow interior portion of said lens portion accessible through said opening in said base portion and (iii) a light source holder integrally molded to said base portion adjacent said opening in said base portion, said light source holder comprising a hollow tube projecting from said base portion, said hollow tube having a first opening at one end of said hollow tube and a second opening at an opposite end of said hollow tube;

an electrical connector, said electrical connector adapted to provide for electrical connection to the light source and electrical connection to the electrical system of the vehicle, said electrical connector positioned in said second opening of said hollow tube, said light source holder adapted to hold said electrical connector in said second opening, so that when the light source is held by said first opening, the light source extends into said hollow portion of said lens portion, and said light source and said electrical connector are in electrical communication through said hollow tube; and

means for retaining said base portion to the exterior surface of the vehicle so that said opening through said base portion overlies the opening through the surface of the vehicle to allow access to the light source from the interior of the vehicle.

B. Please cancel Claim 2.

C. Please add Claims 9 through 12 as set forth below.

9. (New) A vehicular lamp assembly comprising:

a molded component comprising a base portion, a lens portion integrally attached to the base portion, the interior surface of the base portion and the lens portion defining a cavity, and a hollow tube integrally attached to the base portion, the hollow tube forming an opening into the cavity;

an electrical connector positioned within the hollow tube; and

a light source inserted into the opening of the hollow tube such that the light source and the electrical connector are in electrical communication.

10 (New) The vehicular lamp assembly of Claim 9, where the electrical connector is releasably inserted into the hollow tube, and is in releasable electrical communication with the light source.

11. (New) The vehicular lamp assembly of Claim 9, where the light source is releasably inserted into the hollow tube, and is in releasable electrical communication with the electrical connector.

12. (New) The vehicular lamp assembly of Claim 9, where the hollow tube comprises a first opening extending into the cavity, and a second opening extending out of the cavity.
